

Abstract

This invention relates to opioid peptides, to pharmaceutical compositions containing the peptides, and to methods for controlling pain by administering the peptides or pharmaceutical compositions. The peptides have a high degree of selectivity for the μ -opioid receptor. Although they are highly lipophilic, the peptides do not readily cross the blood brain barrier (BBB). Because
5 the peptides act peripherally, they substantially avoid the side effects associated with central analgesic action.